April 26, 1948.

Dr. David Rittenberg,
Dept. Biochemistry,
College of Physicians and Surgeons,
New York 32, N.Y.

Dear Dr. Rittenberg,

You may remember my doing some work with dl-p-fluoro-phenylalanine which you supplied. At Yale, it worked as a competitive inhibitor of both phenylalanine and tyrosine, either amino acid being quite efficient. Although the Caltech workers have been most extensively interested in these fluoro analogues more recently, I think they still haven't explained its mechanism adequately. I should like to continue some experiments with "FPA" as an amino acid antagonist; unfortunately, what little I had left from the supply you gave me was lost somewhere on the way from New Haven to Madison. Could you send another gram or so?

Acetyl-glycine drew a blank as far as being more rapidly utilized than acetate for growth both of wild type E. coli and the mutant which does not utilize acetate at all as a carbon source. For the coli Krebs cycle at least there doesn't seem to be any insuperable objection to pyruvate as the intermediate which condenses with oxalacetate (??~~)~~-in coli) for pyruvate oxidation. I don't think you've sent me your paper on the acetyl transfer— I'd appreciate a reprint. Much obliged, and best regards to Shemin, etc.,

Yours sincerely,

Joshua Lederberg
Assistant Professor of Genetics.